

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A review facility for providing a document for collaborative review by a plurality of reviewers and collecting comments from reviewers, said review facility comprising:

preparation means for preparing a document for interactive review;

means for making prepared documents available for interactive collaborative review,
prepared said documents being independently reviewable by reviewers in said interactive collaborative review;

means for collecting comments on blocks of text in said prepared documents from said interactive collaborative review; [[and]]

means for distributing collected said comments from said interactive collaborative review; and

means for conducting a formal review, said formal review considering collected comments provided by said reviewers participating in said formal review and previously distributed to said reviewers by said means for distributing collected comments.

2. (previously presented) A review facility as in claim 1 wherein the means for preparing said document for interactive review comprises:

selection means for selecting and retrieving said document; and

means for formatting retrieved said documents.

3. (previously presented) A review facility as in claim 2 wherein the means for formatting said documents identifies individual said blocks of text within said document, reviewers providing comments on ones of said individual blocks of text.

4. (previously presented) A review facility as in claim 3 where said document is a software source code block, said individual blocks of text are individual lines of said source code, and said formatting means further builds a comment file, collected comments on code lines being contained in said comment file.

5. (previously presented) A review facility as in claim 3 where said formatting means further builds a comment file, collected comments on blocks of code being contained in said comment file.

6. (previously presented) A review facility as in claim 1 wherein the means for collecting comments comprises:

means for providing documents to reviewers; and

reviewer selection means for selecting said documents for review responsive to reviewer selection.

7. (previously presented) A review facility as in claim 6 wherein the document being reviewed is source code for software and blocks of text of said source code are individual lines of code.

8. (previously presented) A review facility as in claim 6 wherein the document being reviewed is a text file.

9. (currently amended) A review facility as in claim 1, wherein said means for distributing collected said comments makes collected said comments available for further interactive collaborative review, ~~said review facility further comprising:~~

~~means for conducting a formal review, said formal review considering collected comments provided by reviewers participating in said formal review and previously distributed to said reviewers by said means for distributing collected comments.~~

10. (previously presented) A method of reviewing a document being prepared for distribution, said method comprising the steps of:

a) preparing a document for interactive review;

b) making said prepared document available to a plurality of reviewers for comments on blocks of text, ones of said plurality of reviewers returning comments on said prepared document; and

c) conducting a formal review meeting of said plurality of reviewers, whereby one or more of the previously provided comments sufficiently provides attending reviewers awareness of a particular condition with respect to said document that said comment may be addressed in said document prior to said formal review meeting, such that further action is unnecessary at the time of said formal review with respect to said particular condition and each corresponding said comment.

11. (previously presented) A method as in claim 10 wherein the step (a) of preparing said document for interactive review comprises the steps of:

- i) retrieving said document for review;
- ii) formatting said document, individual blocks of text being identified for comment in said formatted document.

12. (previously presented) A method as in claim 11 wherein said document is source code and said formatting step ii) identifies individual lines of source code for comments and further, builds a comment file, comments provided on said lines of source code being contained in said comment file.

13. (previously presented) A method as in claim 11 wherein said document is a text file and said formatting step ii) builds a comment file, comments provided on said blocks of text being contained in said comment file.

14. (previously presented) A method as in claim 10 wherein the step (b) of making the prepared document available for comments comprises for each reviewer the steps of:

- i) selecting said document;
- ii) reviewing comments on said selected document;
- iii) determining whether said selected document warrants additional comments;
- iv) distributing warranted additional comments on said selected document; and

- v) repeating steps (i-iv) until all documents for review have been selected.

15. (previously presented) A method as in claim 14 wherein said document is source code and said blocks of text in said document are lines in said source code, comments on any of said lines being contained in a comment file.

16. (previously presented) A method as in claim 14 wherein said document is a text file and comments on any of said blocks of text are contained in a comment file.

17. (previously presented) A method as in claim 14 wherein documents are stored in a central repository and the step (i) of selecting said document comprises connecting over the Internet to said central repository and accessing said document.

18. (original) A method as in claim 10 wherein returned comments are available for display by reviewers upon receipt.

19. (previously presented) A computer program product for presenting a document for collaborative review by a plurality of reviewers and collecting comments from reviewers, said computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code thereon, said computer readable program code comprising:

computer program code means for preparing a document for collaborative review;

computer program code means for collecting comments on prepared documents;

computer program code means for distributing comments to reviewers; and

computer program code means for presenting prepared documents for formal review, said formal review considering collected comments provided by reviewers, whereby reviewers participating in said formal review are aware of collected said comments previously distributed to said reviewers.

20. (previously presented) A computer program product as in claim 19 wherein the computer program code means for preparing said document for interactive collaborative review comprises:

computer program code selection means for selecting and retrieving said document; and

computer program code means for formatting retrieved said documents.

21. (previously presented) A computer program product as in claim 20 wherein the computer program code means for formatting said document identifies individual said blocks of text within said document, reviewers providing comments on ones of said individual blocks of text.

22. (previously presented) A computer program product as in claim 21 where said document is a software source code block, said individual blocks of text are individual lines of said source code, and said computer program code means for formatting further builds a comment file, collected comments on code lines being contained in said comment file.

23. (previously presented) A computer program product as in claim 21 where said document is a text file, and said computer program code means for formatting further builds a comment file, collected comments on blocks of code being contained in said comment file.

24. (previously presented) A computer program product as in claim 19 wherein the computer program code means for collecting comments comprises:

computer program code means for providing documents to reviewers; and

computer program code means for selecting said documents for review responsive to reviewer selection.

25. (previously presented) A computer program product as in claim 24 wherein the document being reviewed is source code for software and blocks of text of said source code are individual lines of code.

26. (previously presented) A computer program product as in claim 24 wherein the document being reviewed is a text file.

27. (previously presented) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of instructions, the plurality of instructions including instructions which, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to:

- a) prepare a document for interactive review;
- b) make said prepared document available to a plurality of reviewers for comments on blocks of text;
- c) receive comments from ones of said plurality of reviewers; and
- d) present said document and received said comments for a formal review meeting of said plurality of reviewers, whereby one or more of the previously provided comments sufficiently provides attending reviewers awareness of a particular condition with respect to said document that said comment may be addressed in said document prior to said formal review meeting, such that further action is unnecessary at the time of said formal review with respect to said particular condition and each corresponding said comment.

28. (previously presented) A computer readable medium as in claim 27 wherein the instruction step (a) of preparing said document for interactive review causes the processor to:

- i) selectively retrieve said document for review; and
- ii) format said document, individual said blocks of text being identified for comment in said formatted document.

29. (previously presented) A computer readable medium as in claim 28 wherein said document is a text file and said formatting step ii) causes said processor to identify individual blocks of text in said text file for comments and further, build a comment file, comments provided on said blocks of text being contained in said comment file.

30. (previously presented) A computer readable medium as in claim 28 wherein said document is source code and said formatting step ii) causes said processor to identify individual lines of source code for comments and further, build a common file, comments provided on said lines of source code being contained in said comment file.

31. (previously presented) A computer readable medium as in claim 27 wherein documents are located in a central repository and the step i) of selectively retrieving said document causes the processor to connect over the Internet to said central repository and access said document.